

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/925,597

Examiner

Kenny Lin

Applicant(s)

THERIAULT ET AL.

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/8/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20, 23, 25-27 now renumbered as 1-24.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 9/19/2005.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 and 22-27 are presented for examination. Claim 21 is canceled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jason Feldmar, Reg. No. 39,187 on 9/19/2005.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Image data processing apparatus, comprising a plurality of image processing systems in which each of said image processing systems has direct access to a respective frame storage means; and a network connecting said image processing systems together so as to allow each connected image processing system to indirectly access the frame storage means of [[the]] other connected image processing systems, wherein each connected image processing system comprises:

- (a) a local configuration file specifying details of [[its]] said image processing system's respective locally connected storage means;
- (b) a network configuration data structure; and

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(c) network communication means, wherein, said network communication means is arranged to:

(i) transmit details of [[its]] said image processing system's associated local configuration file to said other connected networked image systems; and

(ii) automatically add local configuration details, from said other networked image systems, to [[its]] said image processing system's associated network configuration data structure in response to receiving the details of local configuration files details from said other connected networked image processing systems[[.]]; wherein the local configuration details comprise framestore information for the

respectively locally connected storage means and interface information for the image processing system; and

the network configuration data structure comprises framestore information for each frame storage means connected to image processing system on the network and interface information for one interface for each image processing system on the network.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of automatically writing network configuration data structures in a networked image data processing environment, comprising a plurality of image processing systems in which each of said image processing systems has direct access to a respective frame storage means, wherein each image processing system includes a local configuration file specifying details of [[its]] said image processing system's respective locally connected storage means, a network configuration data structure, and network communication means; and a network connecting said image processing systems together so as to allow each

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connected image processing system to indirectly access the frame storage means of [[the]] other connected image processing systems; wherein said method performs the steps of:

transmitting details of said local ~~system~~ configuration file [[data]] to said other connected networked processing systems, and

automatically add local configuration details, from said other connected networked processing system, to the networked configuration data structure in response to receiving the details of local configuration files~~details~~ from other networked image processing systems[.];

wherein the local configuration details comprise framestore information for the respectively locally connected storage means and interface information for the image processing system; and

the network configuration data structure comprises framestore information for each frame storage means connected to image processing system on the network and interface information for one interface for each image processing system on the network.

22. (Canceled).

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [[22]]1 wherein:

- (a) the framestore information comprises:
 - (i) a name for a framestore;
 - (ii) a hardware address for the framestore; and
 - (iii) a framestore identification reference number; and

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(b) the interface information comprises protocol and address information for every network to which the image processing system is connected.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[24]]~~11 wherein:

(a) the framestore information comprises:

- (i) a name for a framestore;
- (ii) a hardware address for the framestore; and
- (iii) a framestore identification reference number; and

(b) the interface information comprises protocol and address information for every network to which the image processing system is connected.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the ~~network configuration data structure comprises:~~

~~—framestore information for each frame storage means connected to image processing systems on the network; and~~

interface information for one interface for each image processing system on the network ~~[[that]]~~ identifies the fastest interface between each image processing system on the network and a current image processing system.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the ~~network configuration data structure comprises:~~

~~framestore information for each frame storage means connected to image processing systems on the network; and~~

interface information for one interface for each image processing system on the network [[that]] identifies the fastest interface between each image processing system on the network and a current image processing system.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-20, 23 and 25-27 allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art of record fairly teaches or suggests all of the limitation claimed especially the limitations of each image processing system comprising a local configuration file and a network configuration data structure; wherein the local configuration file comprises framestore information for the respective locally connected storage means of the image processing system and interface information for the image processing system and that the network configuration data structure comprises framestore information for each storage means connected to image processing systems on the network and interface information for one interface for each image processing system on the network. None of the prior art of record fairly teaches the image processing system to transmit its local configuration file details to other connected image processing systems and to use the local configuration file details received from other connected image processing systems to compose the network configuration data structure. Furthermore, none of the prior art of

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record fairly suggests each image processing system to comprising both a corresponding local configuration file and a corresponding network configuration data structure.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenny Lin whose telephone number is (571) 272-3968. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM to 5 PM Tue.-Fri. and every other Monday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ksl

September 19, 2005


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